Beyond the scope of conventional area studies, the innovative major of Global China Studies allows students to cultivate up-to-date knowledge and critical skills about China. The Global China Studies major offers two options. Students may opt to focus specifically on how these connections have in the past and at present impact Asian societies. Collaborating not only with the various NYU campuses and portal sites, but also with other institutions across the world, the Center seeks to play a bridging role in understanding Asia in a globalized world.

Center Director: 
Tansen Sen, Director of the Center for Global Asia, Professor of History, NYU Shanghai; Associated Professor of History, NYU; Associate Professor of Global Policy and Global Affairs, New York University

Project Leaders:
- Wu-Wei Chen, Assistant Arts Professor of IMA
- Lala Zuo, Associate Professor of Art History

The Digital Heritage Lab, established mainly by GCS faculty, is a research group that connects faculty, students, and other institutions in China and Asia. The Lab collaborates with the local community in China, Asia, and universities worldwide to resolve conflicts and challenges by documenting, researching, and preserving historical monuments and cultural heritage. These collaborations within and outside China will benefit faculty research and student training and showcase NYU Shanghai’s innovative digital humanities and heritage studies projects. The Lab creates space for intellectual dialogues and collaborations about China or Asia in the global network of NYU.

Center Director:
Zhihua Shen, Co-Director of GHEC, Distinguished Professor of the Department of History, ECNU

Jian Chen, Co-Director of GHEC, Distinguished Global Network Professor of History, NYU Shanghai and NYU Center on Global History, Economy, and Culture

Global China Studies is an interdisciplinary program that focuses on China’s interactions with the wider world, as well as trends within China, at individual, societal, state, and global levels, and in the context of socioeconomic, religious, cultural, and political transformations. Scholars in Global China Studies are trained in various disciplines, including East Asian languages and civilizations, religion, gender, law, and economic development. Their research and teaching span pre-modern, modern, and contemporary China, and they study global changes that affect China’s relations with its neighbors. Global China Studies is a transformative major that provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to become qualified practitioners and thinkers of a changing China in the world.
Maria Adele Carrai is an Assistant Professor of Global China Studies at NYU Shanghai. Her research explores the history of international law and international legal thought, with a focus on the intersections of law, politics, and culture in East Asia. Carrai was a recipient of a three-year Marie-Curie Fellowship at KU Leuven. She was also a Fellow at the Italian Academy of Columbia University, Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program, Max Weber Program of the European University Institute of Florence, and New York University Law School.

ASSOCIATED PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, NYU SHANGHAI; DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR GLOBAL ASIA, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, NYU SHANGHAI; RESEARCH INTERESTS: HISTORY AND RELIGIONS, INDIAN OCEAN CONNECTIONS, BUDDHISM

Minhao Xiao is an Assistant Professor of Religious and Literary Studies at NYU Shanghai. His research addresses the religious and literary landscape of medieval China, particularly the formation of talismanic culture. By employing both transmitted Buddhist texts and medieval manuscripts from Dunhuang, he reveals how different religious elements, foreign or domestic, were creatively utilized in the making, using, and understanding of talismans in medieval China. The book also aims to participate in the broader conversation on empowered objects in religions.

TANSEN SEN

Sovereignty in China (2003; 2016) and Traditional China in Asian and World Art. Scheen’s second monograph on Shanghai’s heritage politics will be published in 2023 as part of the Brill series on “Ideas, History, and Modernity.” From 2017 to 2020, Scheen taught Global China Studies and Environmental Studies at Columbia University. In his book, he explores the role of everyday environment and national memory in heritage politics. It is based on seven years of archival research and field studies of cultural sites and museums, as well as the collection of interviews from citizens about their experiences.

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RESEARCH INTERESTS: SECURITY STRATEGIES, COLD WAR INTERNATIONAL HISTORY

Marina C. Losurdo is an Assistant Professor of Global China Studies at NYU Shanghai. Her research explores the history of international law in East Asia and Southeast Asia. She uses a legal and political perspective to analyze China’s role in crisis management and conflict resolution, with a focus on the development of international law and security strategies in the Asia-Pacific region.

Buddhism Across Asia: Networks of Material, Cultural and Intellectual Exchange (2014). He is currently working on a book about 15th-century maritime interactions in the early Ming era and another project looking at the Celestial Mandate History of the Inner Asian volume 1.